

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 00247 212327Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FCC-02 OTPE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 /048 W
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2211
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL

UNCLAS OTTAWA 0247

POUCHED ALL OTHER AMCONSULS CANADA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL, CA
SUBJ: BORDER TELEVISION

REF: STATE 008346

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF CRTC PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF
JANUARY 21:

QUOTE COMMERCIAL DELETION

IN ITS JULY 1971 CABLE TELEVISION POLICY
STATEMENT THE COMMISSION DESCRIBED SEVER-
AL MONTHS TO REDUCE THE ECONOMIC IMPACT
OF THE PENETRATION OF UNITED STATES TELE-
VISION STATIONS IN CANADA IN ORDER TO
ENHANCE THE CAPACITY OF THE CANADIAN
BROADCASTING SYSTEM TO ACHIEVE NATIONAL
BROADCASTING OBJECTIVES. ONE OF THE
METHODS PROPOSED WAS THE REMOVAL OF COM-
MERCIALS FROM INCOMING U.S. TELEVISION
SIGNALS, KNOWN AS COMMERCAIL DELETION.

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RANDOM COMMERCIAL DELETION WAS IMPLE-
MENTED AND CONTINUES TO BE PRACTISED AT
PRESENT IN CALGARY, EDMONTON, AND SOME
PARTS OF TORONTO. IN ADDITION, THE
COMMISSION HAS MADE IT A CONDITION OF
A NUMBER OF CABLE TELEVISION LICENCES
IN VARIOUS PARTS OF CANADA THAT PLANS

FOR COMMERCIAL DELETION BE DEVELOPED BY CABLE TELEVISION LICENSEES IN CONJUNCTION WITH TELEVISION BROADCASTERS FOR THE FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMERCIAL DELETION, AND THAT THE COMMISSION BE INFORMED OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH PLANS BY SPECIFIED DATES.

ON OCTOBER 18, 1976, THE COMMISSION INFORMED THE APPROPRIATE CABLE TELEVISION LICENSEES THAT THE DATES ON WHICH THE REQUIRED REPORTS ON PLANS FOR COMMERCIAL DELETION WERE TO BE SUBMITTED HAD BEEN EXTENDED TO AUGUST 31, 1977.

THE COMMISSION HAS NOW BEEN INFORMED BY THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, THE HONOURABLE JEANNE SAUVE, THAT THE GOVERNMENT FULLY SUPPORTS THE OBJECTIVES WHICH HAVE LED THE CRTC TO INSTITUTE THE COMMERCIAL DELETION POLICY, BUT CONSIDERS THAT THE FEASIBILITY OF OTHER METHODS OF ACHIEVING THE SAME OBJECTIVES SHOULD BE EXAMINED BY THE COMMISSION BEFORE COMMERCIAL DELETION IS FURTHER IMPLEMENTED. IN ADDITION, THE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT TIME SHOULD BE ALLOWED

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FOR AN ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTS OF SECTION 19.1 OF THE INCOME TAX ACT AND OF SIMULTANEOUS PROGRAM SUBSTITUTION.

THE COMMISSION WELCOMES THIS INDICATION OF GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR THE OBJECTIVES OF ITS REGULATORY POLICIES. THE COMMISSION WILL UNDERTAKE THE REQUESTED EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT. THIS PERIOD OF ASSESSMENT WILL ALSO ENABLE THE COMMISSION TO RECEIVE THE JUDGMENT OF THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA ON THE COMMISSION'S JURISDICTION WITH RESPECT TO COMMERCIAL DELETION WHICH CONTINUES TO BE AUTHORIZED BY IMPLEMENTATION BY SEVERAL CABLE TELEVISION LICENSEES AS A CONDITION OF THEIR LICENCES. UNQUOTE

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